



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 16-53

May 31, 2016

Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of its 2015 Interconnection Timeline Enforcement Mechanism Report.

On April 4, 2016, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (“Unitil” or “Company”) filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) its annual Interconnection Timeline Enforcement Mechanism (“TEM”) Report (“Report”) pursuant to the Department’s Order in Timeline Enforcement Mechanism, D.P.U. 11-75-F (2014) and the Company’s Standards for Interconnection of Distributed Generation, M.D.P.U. No. 269 (“Interconnection Tariff”). The Report consists of Unitil’s TEM calculation, a list of interconnection applications eligible to be included in its TEM calculation, and a list of projects excluded from the TEM calculation. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 16-53.

In D.P.U. 11-75-F, the Department directed each Distribution Company to report annually its compliance in meeting interconnection timeframes to execute an early or final Interconnection Service Agreement (“ISA”), measured from January 1 through December 31 (“Reporting Year”), for the following interconnection tracks: (1) Simplified Process, (2) Expedited Process, and (3) Standard Process. D.P.U. 11-75-F at 4. The TEM provides a way to measure each Distribution Company’s performance in meeting interconnection timelines and requires each Distribution Company to report its aggregate performance in meeting interconnection time frames; penalties or offsets based on the annual reporting; a deadband and cap to limit the penalties incurred and offsets earned; and a method for calculating penalties and offsets. D.P.U. 11-75-F at 2. Compliance with the interconnection timeframes for each track is determined by comparing (1) the aggregate average time measured in business days necessary to execute an early or final ISA (the Aggregate Necessary Tariff Time Frames), with (2) the total aggregate number of business days allowed by its Interconnection Tariff to execute an early or final ISA for the Reporting Year (the Aggregate Allowed Tariff Time Frames). The resulting value is then multiplied by the weighting given to each interconnection track: 20 percent for the Simplified Process, 40 percent for the Expedited process, and 40 percent for the Standard Process. D.P.U. 11-75-F at 4. Penalties or offsets are earned when performance by a Distribution Company’s performance deviates by more than five percent from the Aggregate Allowed Tariff Time Frames. D.P.U. 11-75-F at 4.

The Company states that it has met the interconnection timeframes as required by the Interconnection Tariff and as a result has not incurred any penalties. The Company calculates that it has earned the maximum eligible amount of offsets, \$8,196, to be applied against any penalties incurred in the following Reporting Year.

Any person interested in commenting or intervening on this matter may submit written comments or petition for leave to intervene no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Monday June 20, 2016**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, including a description of the manner in which the petitioner is substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late-filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10

One original copy of all written documents must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. In addition, one copy of all written comments or petitions to intervene should be sent to the Company's attorney, Gary Epler, Esq., Unutil, 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842.

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@state.ma.us and sarah.herbert@state.ma.us or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 16-53); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

A copy of the filing is available for public viewing during regular business hours at Unutil's offices at 6 Liberty Lane West, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842; and at the Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The filing is also available on the Department's website, by looking up the docket by its number in the docket database at <http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "16-53"). Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact its counsel, Gary Epler, Esq., at 603-773-6440. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Sarah Herbert, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at 617-305-3594.